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Claims

[c1] A cylinder carrying and chocking apparatus, comprising:
a first rigid elongate handle having a first end, a second end, and a first middle section;
a rope having a third end and a fourth end, the third end being fixed to the first end and the fourth end being fixed to the second end;
a second rigid elongate handle having a fifth end, a sixth end, and a second middle section, the fifth end having drilled through it a first hole, and the sixth end having drilled through it a second hole substantially parallel to the first hole, the diameter of the holes being larger than the diameter of the rope; and
the rope passing through the first and second holes so that the rope can slide through the holes.

[c2] The apparatus of claim 1, wherein:
said first middle section further comprises a first resilient grip; and
said second middle section further comprises a second resilient grip.

[c3] The apparatus of claim 2, wherein:
said grips further comprise non-skid material taken from

the group of:

a) rubber;

b) polystyrene.

[c4] The apparatus of claim 3 wherein:
said first, second, fifth, and sixth ends have end caps affixed thereto.

[c5] The apparatus of claim 4 wherein:
each of said end caps has a cross-section perpendicular to the axes of said handles, the periphery of the cross-section having at least one flat.

[c6] The apparatus of claim 5 in which:
said cross-section is a triangle.

[c7] A method for carrying a cylinder using a carrying apparatus comprising a first rigid elongate handle having a first end, a second end, and a first middle section, a rope having a third end and a fourth end, the third end being fixed to the first end and the fourth end being fixed to the second end, a second rigid elongate handle having a fifth end, a sixth end, and a second middle section, the fifth end having drilled through it a first hole, and the sixth end having drilled through it a second hole substantially parallel to the first hole, the diameter of the holes being larger than the diameter of the rope, and the

rope passing through the first and second holes so that the rope can slide through the holes, the method comprising the steps of:

a) placing the apparatus on a horizontal surface with the first and second handles spaced parallel to each other and at the full extent of the rope so that the rope forms substantially equal portions;

b) placing the cylinder on top of the rope portions, at right angles to them and parallel to the handles;

c) lifting the first and second handles and inserting the second handle between the rope portions;

d) releasing the first handle and pulling upward on the second handle until the slack in the rope is taken up; and

e) lifting the apparatus and cylinder off the horizontal surface.

[c8] The method of claim 7 in which steps (c) and (d) are replaced by:

c) lifting the first and second handles and inserting the first handle between the rope portions; and

d) releasing the second handle and pulling upward on the first handle until the slack in the ropes is taken up.

[c9] A method for preventing rolling of a cylinder on a surface, using a chocking apparatus comprising a first rigid elongate handle having a first end, a second end, and a first middle section, a rope having a third end and a

fourth end, the third end being fixed to the first end and the fourth end being fixed to the second end, a second rigid elongate handle having a fifth end, a sixth end, and a second middle section, the fifth end having drilled through it a first hole, and the sixth end having drilled through it a second hole substantially parallel to the first hole, the diameter of the holes being larger than the diameter of the rope, the rope passing through the first and second holes so that the rope can slide through the holes, the first middle section of the first handle having a first cylindrical non-skid grip, and second middle section of the second handle having a second cylindrical non-skid grip, the method comprising the steps of:

a) placing the apparatus on a horizontal surface with the first and second handles spaced parallel to each other and at the full extent of the rope so that the rope forms substantially equal portions;

b) placing the cylinder on top of the rope portions at right angles to them and in contact with the first grip;

c) holding the rope at its full extent, sliding the second handle toward the cylinder until the second grip comes into contact with the cylinder.

[c10] A cylinder carrying and chocking apparatus, comprising:

a first rigid elongate handle having a first end, a second end, and a first middle section;

a first rope having a third end and a fourth end, the third end being fixed to the first end;
a second rope being substantially equal in length and diameter to the first rope, and having a fifth end and a sixth end, the fifth end being fixed to the second end;
a second rigid elongate handle having a seventh end, an eighth end, and a second middle section, the seventh end having drilled through it a first hole, and the eighth end having drilled through it a second hole substantially parallel to the first hole, the diameter of the holes being larger than the diameter of the ropes; and
the first rope passing through the first hole so that it can slide back and forth through the first hole, and having at the fourth end means for preventing the first rope from being pulled out of the first hole; and
the second rope passing through the second hole so that it can slide back and forth through the second hole, and having at the sixth end means for preventing the second rope from being pulled out of the second hole.

[c11] The apparatus of claim 10, wherein:
said first middle section further comprises a first resilient grip; and
said second middle section further comprises a second resilient grip.

[c12] The apparatus of claim 11, wherein:
said grips further comprise non-skid material taken from the group of:
a) rubber;
b) polystyrene.

[c13] The apparatus of claim 12 wherein:
said first, second, fifth, and sixth ends have end caps affixed thereto.

[c14] The apparatus of claim 13 wherein:
each of said end caps has a cross-section perpendicular to the axes of said handles, the periphery of the cross-section having at least one flat.

[c15] The apparatus of claim 14 in which:
said cross-section is a triangle.

[c16] A method for carrying a cylinder using a carrying apparatus comprising a first rigid elongate handle having a first end, a second end, and a first middle section; a first rope having a third end and a fourth end, the third end being fixed to the first end; a second rope being substantially equal in length and diameter to the first rope, and having a fifth end and a sixth end, the fifth end being fixed to the second end; a second rigid elongate handle having a seventh end, an eighth end, and a sec-

ond middle section, the seventh end having drilled through it a first hole, and the eighth end having drilled through it a second hole substantially parallel to the first hole, the diameter of the holes being larger than the diameter of the ropes; and the first rope passing through the first hole so that it can slide back and forth through the first hole, and having at the fourth end means for preventing the first rope from being pulled out of the first hole; and the second rope passing through the second hole so that it can slide back and forth through the second hole, and having at the sixth end means for preventing the second rope from being pulled out of the second hole, the method comprising the steps of:

a) placing the apparatus on a horizontal surface with the first and second handles spaced parallel to each other and with the ropes extended fully;

b) placing the cylinder on top of the ropes, at right angles to them and parallel to the handles;

c) lifting the first and second handles and inserting the second handle between the ropes;

d) releasing the first handle and pulling upward on the second handle until the slack in the ropes is taken up; and

e) lifting the apparatus and cylinder off the horizontal surface.

[c17] The method of claim 16 in which steps (c) and (d) are replaced by:

c) lifting the first and second handles and inserting the first handle between the ropes; and

d) releasing the second handle and pulling upward on the first handle until the slack in the ropes is taken up.

[c18] A method for preventing rolling of a cylinder on a surface, using a chocking apparatus comprising a first rigid elongate handle having a first end, a second end, and a first middle section; a first rope having a third end and a fourth end, the third end being fixed to the first end; a second rope being substantially equal in length and diameter to the first rope, and having a fifth end and a sixth end, the fifth end being fixed to the second end; a second rigid elongate handle having a seventh end, an eighth end, and a second middle section, the seventh end having drilled through it a first hole, and the eighth end having drilled through it a second hole substantially parallel to the first hole, the diameter of the holes being larger than the diameter of the ropes; and the first rope passing through the first hole so that it can slide back and forth through the first hole, and having at the fourth end means for preventing the first rope from being pulled out of the first hole; and the second rope passing through the second hole so that it can slide back and

forth through the second hole, and having at the sixth end means for preventing the second rope from being pulled out of the second hole, the first middle section of the first handle having a first cylindrical non-skid grip, and second middle section of the second handle having a second cylindrical non-skid grip, the method comprising the steps of:

a) placing the apparatus on a horizontal surface with the first and second handles spaced parallel to each other and with the ropes extended fully;

b) placing the cylinder on top of the ropes at right angles to them and in contact with the first grip;

c) holding the ropes at their full extent, sliding the second handle toward the cylinder until the second grip comes into contact with the cylinder.